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rely on purely geological causes; they may yet be proved to have been sufficient. Dr. Croll nowhere explains why so large a portion of the subpolar regions were unglaciated.

In his discussions in cosmology, Dr. Croll contends that Sir William Thomson and others are wrong in maintaining the "gravitation theory," *i. e.*, that the sun cannot have supplied the earth with heat, even at the present rate, for more than about 15 to 20,000,000 years. He discards this theory, and freely gives the evolutionists and geologists all the heat they want, by claiming that the sun's heat was originally derived from motion in space; this being "more in harmony with the principles of evolution than the gravitation theory, because it explains how the enormous amount of energy which is being dissipated into stellar space may have existed in the matter composing the sun untransformed during bygone ages, or, in fact, for as far back as the matter itself existed."

On page 65, Dr. Croll, it seems to us, too hastily assumes that the ice in the interior of Greenland is of great thickness, while the land itself is low, "probably not much above sea-level." On the contrary, as the result of recent Danish exploration, Dr. Rink tells us, the surface of the ice in the interior is 6000 feet above the sea, while we infer from his statements that the thickness of the ice is not much over 2000 feet. In fact, the theoretical glacialists go to extremes; closet speculations and field-work do not always harmonize.

The only typographical errors we have noticed are the mention of "Heyes" for Hayes on one occasion, while Torell is wrongly spelt "Torrell," in the only instance in which it is used.

LEUNIS' SYNOPSIS DER THIERKUNDE.¹—This is a new edition of Leunis' Zoölogy, which for so many years has been in almost universal use in the German gymnasias and many of the universities. The present work contains two large volumes of more than 1200 closely printed pages and 1000 cuts each. Perhaps the greatest advantage of Leunis' system was that by the use of series of analytical keys animals could be determined much as the student analyzes flowers with Gray's Botany. This alone would render the book invaluable to any one who wishes to begin the study of a new group or to determine quickly an animal belonging to an unfamiliar class. The book is, of course, intended for German students, but is also quite complete for the marine invertebrates of the North, Baltic and Mediterranean seas. But it contains representative species of most of our American genera. Professor Ludwig, whose work on Echinoderms is known by all zoölogists, has revised the edition and has completely rewritten the second volume, which treats of the inverte-

¹ Third edition, revised by Professor LUDWIG, of Giessen.

brates. This is itself a sufficient guarantee of the scientific accuracy and value of the work. The analytical tables are brief and concise, yet not more technical in language than is absolutely necessary and can be readily understood and followed by the average student. But the book is no mere analytical key to the animal kingdom. The anatomical character of each type, class and order are briefly but clearly presented. It is a hand-book which every teacher will find useful in his class-room and laboratory and which is worthy of a place by the side of Claus or Carus and Gerstæcher in every zoölogical library. The style is clear enough, so that the book could easily be translated by any one tolerably familiar with German. The cuts are clear, good and well selected. The type is rather small and the paper thin, but if large type and thick paper had been used, we should have four or five volumes to contain what is now by a marvel of compression crowded into two. Even more marvelous than the condensation is the price, only thirty marks for the two volumes.—*J. M. Tyler.*

BEDDOE'S RACES OF BRITAIN.¹—This work gives the fruits of a continued examination of the complexions of large numbers of the natives of Britain, with a view to ascertain the proportion in which the various races, aboriginal and immigrant, are represented in the present population. The volume is to a great extent an expansion of a manuscript essay which in 1868 carried off the great prize of the Welsh National Eisteddfod, and is the outcome of a great part of the leisure of fifteen years. The method adopted was to take notes of the colors of the hair and eyes of persons met or passed at a sufficiently small distance to permit of observation. Those under age, those whose hair had begun to grizzle, and those who seemed to belong to the upper or migratory classes were neglected. Eyes are distinguished as light, neutral and dark; hair as red, fair, brown, dark and black; and an index of nigrescence is adopted, forming a basis on which the results of the observations are mapped so as to speak to the eye. A considerable number of head-measurements were also made.

The book is a mine of information, bristling with statistics, facts and arguments, but unfortunately is scarcely comprehensible save by those who know nearly as much of the history and philology of the ancient races as does the author.

ZITTEL'S HANDBUCH DER PALÆONTOLOGIE.—We have from time to time drawn attention to this valuable work, which is being published in parts. It covers the plant and animal kingdoms, and is the most authoritative and recent work on the subject. Due credit is given to American work and illustrations. The number last received (Bd. i, Abth. ii, Lief. 4) is devoted to the fossil Crustacea,

¹ *The Races of Britain.* A contribution to the anthropology of Western Europe. By JOHN BEDDOE, M.D., F.R.S. London, Trubner & Co., Ludgate Hill, 1885.